

Amendments to the Claims:

The following list of claims is intended to replace all other lists of claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet for processing food items thereon, comprising;

a first cut-resistant layer having a first surface area and including a cellulosic ply and a thermoplastic material ply, wherein the thermoplastic material ply of the first layer includes a plurality of apertures therethrough; and

a second layer having a second surface area and including a cellulosic ply and a thermoplastic material ply, wherein the cellulosic ply of the first layer is disposed atop and secured to the cellulosic ply of the second layer such that a portion of the second surface area is laterally disposed outside of the first surface area and wherein the portion of the second surface area includes sections of the thermoplastic ply and the cellulosic ply portions of the thermoplastic and cellulosic plies of the second layer form a border completely surrounding the first layer.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the first layer cellulosic ply is disposed below the first layer thermoplastic material ply.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 2, wherein the first layer thermoplastic material ply is extrusion coated onto the first layer cellulosic ply.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the second layer cellulosic ply is disposed above the second layer thermoplastic material ply.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 4, wherein the second layer thermoplastic material ply is extrusion coated onto the second layer cellulosic ply.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the thickness of the first layer cellulosic ply is between about 2 to about 6 mils.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the thickness of the second layer cellulosic ply is between about 2 to about 6 mils.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the thickness of the first layer thermoplastic ply is about 5 mils.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the thickness of the second layer thermoplastic ply is about 3.5 mils.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the first layer thermoplastic ply and the first layer cellulosic ply include a plurality of apertures therein.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 10, wherein the apertures are created by perforating.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 10, wherein the apertures are created by punching.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 10, wherein the first layer thermoplastic ply and the first layer cellulosic ply contain an average of 5.52 apertures per square inch.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 10, wherein the apertures are substantially circular.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 14, wherein the apertures have a diameter of about 0.08 inches.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 10, wherein the apertures are regularly spaced.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 16, wherein a spacing between apertures is created in the x-direction by 0.279 inches and in the y-direction by 0.165 inches.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 17, wherein the spacing between apertures creates a zigzag pattern in the first layer thermoplastic ply and the first layer cellulosic ply.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the first layer thermoplastic ply and the second layer thermoplastic ply includes a resin comprising metallocene polypropylene.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 19, wherein the metallocene polypropylene comprises a copolymer of propylene and ethylene.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 20, wherein the resin further includes a talc additive.

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 21, wherein the talc additive is present in an amount less than about 10 percent by weight of the resin.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 22, wherein the resin further includes calcium, magnesium or zinc stearate.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 23, wherein the resin further includes at least one antioxidant.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the first layer is substantially centered in the second surface area in at least one direction.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the first layer is substantially centered in the second surface area in both directions.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the ~~processing substrate~~ cutting sheet is embossed.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the first layer has dimensions of about 9.75 inches by about 7.688 inches.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the second layer has dimensions of about 11.75 inches by about 9.688 inches.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the first layer is secured to the second layer by adhesive.

31. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 30, wherein the adhesive is ethyl vinyl acetate.

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 30, wherein the adhesive is in a pattern of parallel stripes.

33. (Currently Amended) A ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet for processing food items thereon, comprising;

a first cut-resistant layer having a first surface area and including a ply of tissue disposed below a ply of thermoplastic material, wherein the first layer includes a plurality of apertures therethrough; and

~~an unfolded~~ a planar second layer having a second surface area and including a ply of tissue disposed above a ply of thermoplastic material, wherein the tissue ply of the first layer is disposed below and secured to the tissue ply of the second layer and substantially centered on the second layer in at least one dimension such that ~~a portion of the second surface area is laterally disposed outside of the first surface area and wherein the portion of the second surface area includes sections of the thermoplastic ply and the tissue ply~~ portions of the thermoplastic and tissue plies of the second layer form a border completely surrounding the first layer.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the first layer thermoplastic material ply is extrusion coated onto the first layer tissue ply.

36. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the second layer tissue ply is disposed above the second layer thermoplastic material ply.

37. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 36, wherein the second layer thermoplastic material ply is extrusion coated onto the second layer tissue ply.

38. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the thickness of the first layer tissue ply is between about 2 to about 6 mils.

39. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the thickness of the second layer tissue ply is between about 2 to about 6 mils.

40. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the thickness of the first layer thermoplastic ply is about 5 mils.

41. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the thickness of the second layer thermoplastic ply is about 3.5 mils.

42. (Canceled)

43. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 42 33, wherein the apertures are created by perforating.

44. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 42 33, wherein the apertures are created by punching.

45. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 42 33, wherein the first layer thermoplastic ply and the first layer tissue ply contain an average of 5.52 apertures per square inch.

46. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 42 33, wherein the apertures are substantially circular.

47. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 46, wherein the apertures have a diameter of about 0.08 inches.

48. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 41, wherein the apertures are regularly spaced.

49. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 48, wherein a spacing between apertures is created in the x-direction by 0.279 inches and in the y-direction by 0.165 inches.

50. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 49, wherein the spacing between apertures creates a zigzag pattern in the first layer thermoplastic ply and the first layer tissue ply.

51. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the first layer thermoplastic ply and the second layer thermoplastic ply ~~includes~~ include a resin comprising metallocene polypropylene.

52. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 51, wherein the metallocene polypropylene comprises a copolymer of propylene and ethylene.

53. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 52, wherein the resin further includes a talc additive.

54. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 53, wherein the talc additive is present in an amount less than about 10 percent by weight of the resin.

55. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 54, wherein the resin further includes calcium, magnesium or zinc stearate.

56. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 55, wherein the resin further includes at least one antioxidant.

57. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the first layer is substantially centered in the second surface area in both dimensions.

58. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the first surface area and the portion of the second surface area laterally disposed outside of the first surface area are embossed.

59. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the first layer has dimensions of about 9.75 inches by about 7.688 inches.

60. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the second layer has dimensions of about 11.75 inches by about 9.688 inches.

61. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the first layer is secured to the second layer by adhesive.

62. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 61, wherein the adhesive is ethyl vinyl acetate.

63. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 61, wherein the adhesive is in a pattern of parallel stripes.

64. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 30, wherein the adhesive is applied in interrupted patterns.

65. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 64, wherein the adhesive is applied as a series of spaced spots.

66. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 30, wherein the adhesive is applied in a continuous pattern.

67. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 61, wherein the adhesive is applied in interrupted patterns.

68. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 67, wherein the adhesive is applied as a series of spaced spots.

69. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 61, wherein the adhesive is applied in a continuous pattern.

70. (Currently Amended) A ~~processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet for processing food items thereon, comprising:

a first layer having a cut resistant portion having ply a first surface area; and
a second layer having an absorbent portion ply and a barrier ply disposed below and secured to the absorbent ply, wherein the absorbent ply of the second layer is disposed adjacent below and secured to the cut resistant portion ply of the first layer and having a second surface area; and

~~a barrier portion disposed adjacent the absorbent portion;~~
wherein the ~~cut resistant portion~~ first layer, ~~the absorbent portion~~, and the barrier portion second layer are secured to one another such that ~~a section of the second surface area is laterally disposed outside of the first surface area~~ portions of the absorbent and barrier plies of the second layer form a border completely surrounding the first layer and wherein the ~~cut resistant portion~~ first layer includes a plurality of apertures therein.

71. (Canceled)

72. (Currently Amended) The ~~processing-substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim ~~71~~ 70, wherein the apertures are created by perforating.

73. (Currently Amended) The ~~processing-substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim ~~71~~ 70, wherein the apertures are created by punching.

74. (Currently Amended) The ~~processing-substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 70, wherein the cut resistant ~~portion~~ ply of the first layer includes a resin comprising metallocene polypropylene.

75. (Currently Amended) The ~~processing-substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 74, wherein the barrier ~~portion~~ ply of the second layer includes a resin comprising metallocene polypropylene.

76. (Currently Amended) The ~~processing-substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 75, wherein the metallocene polypropylene comprises a copolymer of propylene and ethylene.

77. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing-substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 70, wherein the barrier ~~layer~~ ply has a ~~third~~ surface area equal to ~~the second~~ a surface area of the absorbent ply.

78. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the thickness of the second layer thermoplastic ply is about 1 mil.

79. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the first layer has dimensions of about 9.75 inches by about 14 inches.

80. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 1, wherein the second layer has dimensions of about 11.75 inches by about 16 inches.

81. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the thickness of the second layer thermoplastic ply is about 1 mil.

82. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the first layer has dimensions of about 9.75 inches by about 14 inches.

83. (Currently Amended) The ~~single-use processing substrate~~ disposable cutting sheet of claim 33, wherein the second layer has dimensions of about 11.75 inches by about 16 inches.